

# THE EAGLE



*Happy  
Holidays*

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70th Intelligence Wing  
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

November 2001

## General Hornburg assumes command of ACC

by Erin Zagursky

Air Combat Command Public Affairs

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (ACCNS) — Gen. Hal M. Hornburg assumed command of Air Combat Command Nov. 14, becoming ACC's sixth commander.

Secretary of the Air Force James G. Roche was the first to speak at the ceremony held here. "I'll be brief," said Roche. "You're going to be hearing from a lot of Texans today."

Also participating in the ceremony were Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper and U.S. Army Gen. William F. Kernan, commander in chief of U.S. Joint Forces Command.

Jumper joked about Hornburg's "Aggie" background, calling him a "hyper-Texan" before saying how immensely pleased he is that Hornburg is assuming command of ACC.

"Serious times call for the best and brightest. Hal Hornburg's one of those leaders," said Jumper. "ACC will flourish under the Hornburgs. He's precisely the caliber of leader we need."



**Hornburg renders his first salute as the new ACC commander.** (Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Brendan Kavanaugh)

Upon taking command, Hornburg, a 1968 graduate of Texas A&M University's ROTC program, thanked Lt. Gen. Don Cook for his

hard work. Cook stood in as ACC's commander after Jumper became Air Force chief of staff in September.

"The job was especially challenging after the events of Sept. 11," Hornburg said. "But he handled it so well that I don't think anyone missed Johnny." — a quip that got a big laugh from the crowd and the chief of staff.

Hornburg stated the three missions he has for ACC: development of airmen, preparedness to deploy, and readiness to fight. "If there's a call for boots on the ground, we want to be the force that kicks down the door ... so that soldiers and Marines won't have to wade through their own blood as they win this war or the next one," he said.

Hornburg spoke of the various leaders who helped develop him as a young officer, and he encouraged members of the audience to find and develop airmen of every rank.

Speaking before a crowd of 1,000 military members, civilian employees, community leaders and guests, including U.S. Rep. Joann

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## New beginnings for 543 IG ...

*The new Medina Regional Security Operations Center opens at Lackland AFB, Texas. From left, Brig. Gen. Neal Robinson, Headquarters Air Intelligence Agency vice commander, Mr. William McClintock, MRSOC senior civilian advisor, Brig. Gen. John Koziol, Eighth Air Force vice commander, and Col. Harold J. Beatty, 70th Intelligence Wing commander, cut the ribbon at the new facility. Members of the 93rd Intelligence Squadron and the 543rd Intelligence Group gathered to celebrate the opening of the new MRSOC building, which took two years to complete and serves as a multi-service cryptologic operation tasked with activities to meet Department of Defense and other United States Intelligence requirements.*



Air Force photo by Boyd Belcher

### Commander shares thanks for recent hard work, long hours

by Col. Harold J. Beatty  
70th Intelligence Wing Commander

As we enter the third month of combat after the terrorist attacks of September 11, I want to express my appreciation for the outstanding spirit of teamwork and patriotism that I have seen throughout the 70th Intelligence Wing.

As we watch the news, we see that our country and our Air Force are fully committed to the operations and missions that are geared to rooting out world terrorism. As I watch the latest news and participate in the wing Battle Staff functions, I gain a sense of pride knowing that many of the missions of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, BALKAN AIR, NOBLE EAGLE, NORTHERN/SOUTHERN WATCH, and other smaller operations have the "behind the scenes" support from the men and women of the 70 IW.

Our motto, "First in the Fight," certainly holds true as US and coalition Warfighters take the fight to their common enemy – world terrorism. They could not do what they do without the dedicated long hours of the Intelligence Warfighters.

This campaign is still very young,

and we have no way of knowing how long it may last. But it comforts me to know that our wing's best are always ready to step to the front, like the millions of veterans before, giving all they can for this country!

President Bush recently enacted a "Lessons of Liberty" initiative as an opportunity for Americans to learn more about our country and its values. As part of this initiative, the President declared the week of November 11 – 17 as National Veterans Awareness Week. Part of the initiative involves veterans getting out and speaking about their experience in serving our country, the significance of Veteran's Day and the importance of supporting the ideals of liberty, democracy and freedom.

I can't think of a group of more qualified people to get involved in this initiative than the members of this wing. Although National Veterans Awareness Week is past, I encourage each of you to continue the fight by sharing your experiences with the community. How? By knowing that we are part of 25 million living veterans with a story to tell. By knowing that more than 48 million Americans have served since 1776. By knowing



Col. Harold J. Beatty

that nearly one million Americans have died in combat or combat related events, and that this year alone, 88,000 veterans will be laid to rest at national cemeteries. We all have stories to tell, so please take pride and share them.

You have proven that you are up to the combat test by your actions since September 11. We must continue these actions, as this test is not short term. Continue to be vigilant as we move deeper into the holiday season, but most importantly, live and share your life knowing that your hard work is an integral part of our nation's ENDURING FREEDOM.

## Commander's Action Line

*The Commander's Action Line is your direct link to the 70th Intelligence Wing Commander -- Use it wisely!*

This will be the location for the new Commander's Action Line column. An action line is a monthly column designed to address the questions and concerns of members of the 70th Intelligence Wing.

The column is intended as a forum to support individual concerns and should be used in conjunction with the "Chain of

Command," Inspector General, Chaplain, or other professional means.

Try to resolve issues and problems at the lowest level possible. If you feel you are not getting satisfactory results, you may direct your concern to this forum.

Questions and concerns must be accompanied with a complete name, phone number or e-

mail address for official responses. Those without names or contact information will not be printed, but will receive the commander's attention. Action items can be brought into the PA office in building 9805 room 212 or e-mailed to Richard.corral@ft-meade.af.mil

Look for an Action Line hot button on the 70 IW web page.



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Colonel Harold L. Beatty  
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Lt. Col. Lorry M. Fenner  
**Vice Commander**  
Master Sgt. Rick Corral  
**Chief of Public Affairs**  
Staff Sgt. Kristina Brown  
**NCOIC Public Affairs**

# Safety paramount during holidays, winter

by Mr. Jim Trapp  
70th Intelligence Wing Safety

We often unwittingly endanger our safety during the winter holiday season as we hurry about gift shopping or traveling to be with friends and families.

Many things may contribute to tragedy and ruin what should be a joyous time. Following are some issues everyone should consider during this hectic and fun-filled period.

### *Holiday Safety*

Extra care and attention must be given during the holiday season. Carelessness can quickly lead to disaster. Here are a few tips:

- If selecting a live Christmas tree ensure it is fresh. Dry trees are potential fire hazards.
- Keep trees, both live and artificial, away from heat sources such as ducts and fireplaces.
- Examine all lights before placing them, and always unplug lights before leaving the house or going to bed.
- Candles placed in a Menorah for Hanukkah or Kinara for Kwanzaa should never be left unattended. Ensure candles are in suitable holders that will not tip over.
- When preparing holiday meals, always remember to keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold to avoid the risk of food borne illnesses; and keep food, utensils and preparation surfaces clean.

While your children make their lists and check them twice, you better find out which toys are naughty or nice. Here are some guidelines for toy selection:

- Read the age labeling on a toy. Follow the age recommendations no matter how clever you think your child is.
- Look for quality design and construction in all toys for all ages.
- Check labels to make sure fabrics are flame-retardant or flame-resistant, materials are washable, hygienic and non-toxic (such as lead-free paint) and electric toys carry the Underwriters Laboratories' mark.
- Be wary of toys powered by small batteries. If swallowed, these can damage a child's stomach and intestines. Even balloons, when uninflated or broken can choke or suffocate if young children try to swallow them.

### *Winter weather/traveling*

Weather changes are always major concerns. Deteriorating weather coupled with increased holiday traffic can be a deadly mix. Following are some tips to deal with winter weather:

- If traveling over the holidays, pre-plan the trip and allow for scheduled rest stops.
- Have basic emergency equipment handy such as a first-aid kit, flashlight, spare tire and flares.
- Conditions may include bumper-to-bumper holiday traffic and/or inclement weather that produces hazardous (snowy/icy) driving conditions. Drivers need to slow down, increase their following distances and heighten their awareness of what is happening around them.
- Always expect surprising weather changes this time of year. It may be sunny and pleasant at your home station but icy and raining at your destination.
- Always be prepared for the worst, and plan road trips accordingly.

Fatigued drivers who overextend themselves are hazardous to themselves and other drivers. Use proper judgment, plan your trip in advance and allow sufficient travel time. Stop and rest if you feel weary. Blasting the radio or drinking lots of coffee will only provide a quick energy boost. You will quickly return to a fatigued state once your body gets accustomed to the loud noise and the caffeine rush subsides. Only sufficient rest will ward off fatigue and return you to a proper state of alertness.

### *Celebrating responsibly*

Many of us will attend holiday parties where alcohol will be served. Remember that even one drink will adversely affect your judgment, decrease your reaction time and increase your chances of having an accident.

So, if you plan to attend social functions where alcohol may be served, it is imperative that you arrange for safe and dependable transportation. Use the buddy system, call a cab, or use public transportation, but never drink and drive. The risk of dying or receiving a DWI/DUI conviction is just too great.

Additionally, always drink responsibly whether you plan to consume alcohol in a social setting or at home. Too much alcohol can ruin any occasion by fueling unruly

behavior. Please think *before* you drink.

### *Shoveling snow*

Many of us have to contend with snow and ice. Snow shoveling is a strenuous activity, even if it's only three or four inches.

The American Heart Association says a shovel full of snow weighs about four pounds (more if it's wet snow.) Every year, snow shoveling accounts for numerous heart attacks, back, and muscle injuries. To avoid these sorts of injuries shovelers should take their time and remember the following tips when shoveling:

- Dress properly to keep warm and avoid straining muscles.
- Keep your feet apart for balance.
- Lift only what your arms can carry without too much strain.
- When tossing the snow, do not twist your spine.
- Face the direction you want the snow to go and throw it directly ahead.
- If possible push the snow instead of lifting it.

Relatively inactive people, or those over age 40, should be especially careful when shoveling snow. Anyone with a history of heart trouble should not shovel snow or attempt to move objects without a doctor's permission. People in this category should not shovel immediately after eating. They should wait at least one hour after a meal and then tackle the snow. It is never a good idea to work to the point of exhaustion when snow shoveling. Take a break if you run out of breath, and stop immediately if you feel any tightness in the chest.

### *Be safe out there*

These issues demand increased attention during the winter holiday season. The most precious gifts we have, our lives and the lives of our loved ones, could be destroyed if we fail to take a moment to think about our safety. Act responsibly, and consider your personal safety and the safety of your loved ones this season and for all seasons to come.

I extend the warmest seasons greetings to all members of the 70th Intelligence Wing family and a sincere wish that each of you will enjoy an especially joyous and *SAFE* holiday season.



# Dishonorable Drunkenness:

## Don't let holiday fun end promising careers, lives

by Maj. James Dapper  
70 IW Judge Advocate General

Does "service before self" mean you're the first one in line at the keg? Does "excellence in all we do" mean you can drink more than all of your buddies before you puke? Does "Integrity" mean you go out of your way to make sure the underage drinkers get their fair share of the beer?

I don't think so. I also don't think anyone goes to a party thinking, "Hey, tonight I'm going to ruin my career and maybe ruin or end someone's life."

Underage drinking and drunk driving are (just fill in the blank here) ... criminal ... Irresponsible ... Potentially deadly ... Bad for your career ... Bad for the Air Force ... Opposed to our Air Force core values.

I fully realize I stated or even overstated the obvious. Why? Because year after year, I've seen and even represented otherwise fine Air Force men and women who failed to heed the obvious.

As a JAG, I've seen senior NCOs, Thunderbird pilots, Below-The-Zone selectees on their way to general officer and people from every career field (including judge advocates) fool around with alcohol and lose all they've worked for. The lesson: Don't play with alcohol.

As we move into the holiday season, I implore, beg and plead that you avoid becoming one of the statistics listed below. The Air Force and this wing values you too much. I personally hope that each of us can celebrate the holidays without a single incident of alcohol-related injury or stupidity.

If these exhortations aren't enough, please read the statistics provided knowing these numbers represent real people from every walk of life—folks just like you and me.

Like it or not, we risk becoming a statistic with each drink we enjoy at a party or holiday gathering. When we drink irresponsibly we risk losing everything.

I suggest our responsibility goes beyond ourselves; we have a duty to look out for each other. Alcohol impairs judgment. Please watch out for yourself, your friends, and your fellow airmen.



*An example of the harm drinking and driving can cause.*

Courtesy photo

### *Don't become a statistic!*

► According to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in the year 2000, America experienced the largest percentage increase in alcohol-related traffic deaths on record.

► In 2000, 16,653 people were killed in crashes involving alcohol, representing 40 percent of the 41,821 people killed in all traffic crashes (versus 38.3 percent alcohol-related fatalities in 1999).

► About three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some time in their lives. (NHTSA, NCSA, 1999)

► Drivers age 21 to 29 drive the greatest proportion of their miles drunk (Miller et al., 1996c)

► In 1999, there were nearly 2 alcohol-related traffic deaths per hour, 43 per day and 303 per week. That is the equivalent of 2 jetliners crashing week after week. (NHTSA, NCSA, 1999)

► Approximately 17 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes in 1999 were intoxicated at the time of their crash (21 percent in 1993). (NHTSA, NCSA, 1999)

► Traffic crashes are the greatest single cause of death for every age from six through 33. About 45 percent of these fatalities are in alcohol-related crashes. (NHTSA, 1999)

► Alcohol-related crashes in the United States cost the public more than \$110 billion in 1998, including more than \$40 billion in monetary costs and almost \$70 trillion in quality of life losses. (Miller et al, 1999)

► Alcohol-related crashes accounted for an estimated 16 percent of the \$127 billion in U.S. auto insurance payments. Reducing alcohol-related crashes by 10 percent would save \$3 billion in claims payments and loss adjustment expenses. (Miller et al, PIRE, 1999)

# Wing member lends hand after Sept. 11 attack

by SSgt. John Waldron  
543rd Intelligence Group

When TSgt. Anthony Hoffman, 93rd Intelligence Squadron, put in his leave form to take a vacation to Washington in September, he had no idea that his travel plans would put him in the middle of a national crisis.

Hoffman was scheduled to travel to visit his fiancée, Lauren, on Sept. 19. After the attack, he decided to go anyway and see how he could help out. His search for a way to help out led him to volunteer two weeks of his leave to assist in the search and recovery efforts at the Pentagon.

Providing logistical support for the Salvation Army and Red Cross units located at the site, Hoffman says the experience was one he will not soon forget.

The full impact of the attack on the Pentagon, Hoffman said,

is much greater than it appears in the media.

"My first look at the site of the attack was the equivalent of a piano falling on my head," he said, "The smell of fuel, burned concrete, and charred metal engulfed me. On the Pentagon walls, the Kevlar sheeting that reinforced the structure hung in white sheets peeking out from behind black concrete and twisted steel."

Hoffman said the attack had a significant impact on everyone working at the site. "As we walked past the tent where mortuary affairs had been hastily established, I could see the empty stare on the faces of soldiers who were 'prepping' remains for identification," he explained.

Capt. Tim Farrell, an officer with the Salvation Army who worked with Hoffman, said he was a crucial factor in the success



Courtesy photo

*Hoffman operates a fork lift at the Pentagon in the weeks following the attack.*

of the recovery effort.

"He personally organized our warehouse at the Pentagon site so that it could be dismantled in a timely fashion when we were asked to move to a different location," said Farrell. "If it hadn't been for his help we would

probably still be there."

Because of his volunteer efforts at the Pentagon, Hoffman was awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal Oct. 19 by Col. Robert Marlin, 543rd Intelligence Group commander.

## OPSEC keeps pieces of a puzzle apart

by SSgt. Amy Parr  
Air Force Print News

Picture a large jigsaw puzzle with many pieces. Sometimes two pieces fit together and sometimes they do not. What happens when a piece does not fit? It is put to the side until a match shows up.

In operations security, each bit of information is a puzzle piece. When alone, some information might seem unimportant. But, when matched with other information, the entire picture can be completed.

"We take OPSEC seriously," said Colonel Harold J. Beatty, 70th Intelligence Wing Commander. "Everyone of us in the military or the world for that matter, has to watch what is said or sent out over the electronic media. Our enemies are working just as hard to gather information on us as we are about them.

Whether its relating to day-to-day or normal operations, relative to the world terrorist situation or concerning our deployed troops,

we have to know that the smallest piece of the puzzle could be the one that provides just enough information to compromise our people."

According to Master Sgt. David Walker, Air Force OPSEC program manager at the Pentagon, when someone violates OPSEC rules, the military mission could be compromised, resulting in lost lives and equipment.

He said the enemy can analyze small bits of unclassified information from telephone conversations, e-mails and small talk and use them to examine the planning, preparation, execution and post execution phases of any activity. This allows them to see the big picture of military action in any operational environment.

"The picture with bits and pieces of information added together provides the adversary an upper hand," he said. "The enemy now has the information necessary to thwart our planned military operations."

The purpose of OPSEC is to identify information and observable actions relating to

mission capabilities, limitations and intentions in order to prevent exploitation by potential adversaries. So, Walker said it is everyone's duty, whether active duty, family member or civilian, to protect the mission.

Some things people should not talk about outside the proper environment include troop movements and locations, equipment locations, operational status of equipment, mission taskings and leadership movement.

Because cellular phones are very vulnerable to interception, Walker said it is important for people to use secure phones to protect sensitive information. These phones encrypt and decrypt phone conversations that cannot be descrambled without the proper code. Walker said they provide the military a high degree of information protection.

Walker said it is also important to remember that the need to know takes precedence

*See "OPSEC," ... Page 6*

## TSP options require investors to do their homework

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN)** — With the first open season for the Thrift Savings Plan for servicemembers currently under way, officials from the Air Force Personnel Center here said that military people need to understand the enrollment process, the five different funds, bonus and special pay options and more. The TSP is a retirement savings plan.

"This is a great program with the potential for servicemembers to accumulate a good sum of money by their retirement and save on taxes now, but people must do their homework," said Lt. Col. David Zeh, chief of the contact center here, "especially since the first open season ends Jan. 31."

Open season is the period during which people are allowed to designate into which funds their contributions will go. Two more open seasons will take place during the upcoming year: May 15 to July 31 and Nov. 15, 2002 to Jan. 31, 2003.

Military people can initially contribute up to 7 percent of their base pay. That percentage will increase to 10 percent by 2005. Military investors can also contribute all or part of bonuses or special pay up to the federal limits — \$11,000 in 2002.

Military people serving in tax-free combat zones are allowed up to \$40,000 in annual contributions.

"It's really not as complicated as people may think, especially for those who take a little bit of time to research, compare and contrast," Zeh said.

People need to decide how much to contribute from their base pay, Zeh said. Contributions can range from 1 to 7 percent.

"The good thing about the contribution amount is that it is directly deducted from a member's taxable income so it lowers the

amount Uncle Sam will take," he said.

Family support center financial management counselors can provide investment information to interested people. Once the contribution amount has been determined, it is time for the airman to look at the five different funds, determine an acceptable risk and make the allocations. The five funds are:

### *The "G" Fund*

The Government Securities Investment Fund: This fixed income fund is known for being the safest investment of the five funds since the only way it will lose money is by some catastrophic event, such as if the federal government defaults on its loans. But with low risk usually comes a lower interest rate or rate of return.

### *The "F" Fund*

The Fixed Income Index Investment Fund: The second fixed income fund, the F Fund, is higher risk than the G Fund, but is still considered a low-risk investment because it is spread over many generally stable investments. Putting money into the F Fund is an investment in the Barclays U.S. Debt Index Fund, which tracks the bond market. A mathematical model determines the amount in which this fund distributes investor's money among the various types of U.S. government, mortgage-backed, corporate and foreign government sector securities.

### *The "C" Fund*

The Common Stock Index Investment Fund: One of three common stock funds, the C Fund invests in 500 of the largest companies in the U.S. and is considered the least risky as stock investing goes.

### *The "I" Fund*

The International Stock Index Investment Fund: This fund, along with the S Fund, are

new funds to the TSP and have little historical background data. The I fund provides coverage of stock markets in the 21 countries the Morgan Stanley Capital International stock index represents, which includes 915 companies, 23 industry groups within 10 economic sectors.

### *The "S" Fund*

The Small Capitalization Stock Index Investment Fund: While the Standard & Poor's index tracks 500 of the largest companies, this fund does just the opposite, but diversity is the key, officials said. It tracks small- and medium-sized companies through the Wilshire 4500 index (the Wilshire 5000 minus the 500 companies in the S&P). Its medium is the Barclays Extended Market Index Fund which buys stocks of those companies within the index that have market values more than \$1 billion — more than 3,400 stocks at the end of 2000.

Once a person decides to enroll, he or she can access the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site at <http://www.emss.dfas.mil> to establish an account. An alternate method of enrolling is to obtain a hard copy of the form from local finance offices, military personnel flights, or family support centers. The initial election form is TSP-U-1.

Once the Web version or hard-copy form is filed, the account is established. TSP officials will then mail the member a confirmation letter along with a personal identification number to access his or her account via the Web. The participant may then make their contribution allocation.

For more information about the funds, people can go to the TSP Web site at [www.tsp.gov](http://www.tsp.gov).

## *"OPSEC," ...from page 4*

over a person's security clearance.

"Even if a person has the proper security clearance, the information may be privy to a small group of people who are responsible for protecting the information," he said. "Prior to granting access to classified material, a person must have the proper security clearance and a need to know."

Walkersaid following simple OPSEC can make the enemy's job that much more difficult.

"OPSEC is very important, not only in wartime, but in peacetime," he said. "A little effort on our part can make it much harder for our adversaries to gain valuable information regarding Air Force military operations."

For more information on OPSEC, contact local OPSEC program offices. Each office maintains location-specific critical information lists of information requiring OPSEC protection.





## **"Hornburg," ... from page 1**

Davis, Hornburg thanked his wife, Cynthia, for her continued support, saying, "I thank my lucky stars for her."

Hornburg comes from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, where he commanded Air Education and Training Command. Before that he served as ACC's vice commander. He is a command pilot with 4,000 flying hours. He directed air operations over Bosnia, commanded the Joint Warfighting Center, served on the Joint staff, and served as director of operations at Headquarters U.S. Air Force.

As the commander of ACC, Hornburg oversees more than 1,000 aircraft and 100,000 active-duty military and civilian people at 38 major installations in the United States, Iceland and Portugal. ACC organizes, trains, equips and maintains combat-ready forces for rapid deployment and employment while ensuring strategic air defense forces are ready to meet the challenges of peacetime air sovereignty and war-time defense.

## **Hostile Fire Pay authorized**

Any uniformed service member at the Pentagon or World Trade Center, whether TDY or on leave but physically present, during the Sept. 11 attack is authorized Hostile Fire Pay (\$150) for the month of September. For more information, contact the 70 IW Financial Management office at 301-677-0815.

## **OSI investigating UK rental scam**

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations and British Ministry of Defense Police are investigating a company that rented vehicles to US military and government employees in the Royal Air Force Lakenheath, Alconbury, and Mildenhall areas of the United Kingdom. The company allegedly charged customers for non-existent or pre-existing damage to rental vehicles. Customers may have been deceived into paying other fraudulent charges as well. The scheme was cleverly disguised, and renters may not know they were overcharged. Anyone in the Fort Meade area who has performed official travel to the UK since September 1998, and paid for a rental vehicle during that time, is asked to contact Special Agent Michael Kierman at 301-677-0555/0808.

## **Retraining opportunity**

There are currently openings for qualified Airmen and NCOs in the manpower career

field (AFSC 3U0X1.). Applicants should have above average mathematics and communicative skills to be considered. For more information, call Mr. Marvin Pease or SMSgt. Richard Jones at 301-677-0407/0410.

## **Video Bible Ministry**

The 70 IW chaplains' office invites everyone to join in on Video Bible Ministry each Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 9801 Centerlink multi-purpose room. Punch and cookies are provided, but brown-baggers are welcome. The group will watch different speakers and discuss the issues. For more information, call SrA Clara Wise at 301-677-0811

## **Nearing Air Force retirement?**

Retired pay is paid ONLY for the life of the member. Prior to retiring you must decide whether you want to cover a portion of your retired pay under the Survivor Benefit Plan. Enrollment in the SBP for full spouse coverage would give your spouse an annuity of 55 percent of your retired pay upon your death until age 62 then 35 percent thereafter. Anything less requires your spouse's concurrence. Call your SBP Counselor, Larry Pope at 301-677-0202 for more information.

# Operation 'HART': Helping Agency Response Team Info Card

## **LOOK for the signs:**

- ▶ Withdrawn from friends/family/social activities
- ▶ marital and relationship problems
- ▶ Disciplinary problems
- ▶ Hopelessness (i.e., "The world would be better off without me.")
- ▶ Trouble concentrating
- ▶ Giving belongings away
- ▶ Change in sleeping habits
- ▶ Change in eating habits
- ▶ Drastic behavior changes
- ▶ Traumatic loss for individual
- ▶ Fixation with exotic weapons
- ▶ Preoccupied with death/dying
- ▶ Lose interest in their personal appearance
- ▶ Talk about committing suicide
- ▶ Strange euphoria following depression

## **Listen for the feelings:**

- ▶ Don't agree to keep your friend's secret
- ▶ You can help by getting them help

## **Act! Find help:**

- ▶ Discuss the problem openly and frankly
- ▶ Show interest and support
- ▶ Seek help from someone! Escort and stay with them
- ▶ Contact a minister, counselor, physician, commander or 1st. Sgt.

## **Be aware of your feelings:**

Nearly everyone at some time in their life thinks about committing suicide. People having a crisis often perceive their dilemma as inescapable and feel an utter loss of control; however, most decide to live and realize the crisis is temporary and death

isn't. There is no typical suicide victim. It happens to young, old, rich and poor.

## **Emergency numbers:**

### **Army Community Services**

301-677-5590

### **Fort Meade Military police**

301-677-6622

### **NSA Employee Services**

410-712-4444

### **70 IW Readiness Center**

301-688-4764

### **694 IG Life Skills Support Center**

301-677-0162

### **70 IW Chaplain**

301-677-0811

Crisis Hotline (PG county) 301-864-7161

Crisis Hotline (Montgomery) 301-738-2255

Crisis Hotline (Wash DC) 202-561-7000

Crisis Hotline (Howard Co) 410-531-6677

## Career Corner

### Retention rates hit all-time high

By MSgt. Peter Rich  
70th IW/Career Assistance Advisor

#### ... 100 percent across the board!

Okay, so Stop Loss may have had a hand in that. I'm sure for those affected by Stop Loss, it's no laughing matter; but let it be known that making the decision to implement Stop Loss was no easy task.

Air Force Personnel Center representatives responsible for making that decision discussed the process at the CAA Conference. I am confident that the decision surrounding Stop Loss did not come lightly and that those involved have a sincere concern for their fellow Air Force members that are affected.

There is a lot of information being generated on this topic. If you or your troops are directly affected by Stop Loss, you need to stay informed.

Besides your local resources (MPF, 1st Sgt, CAA) AFPC has stood up a Stop Loss Control Center at DSN: 665-2374. However, your first stop should be the AFPC homepage at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil). There you will find answers to FAQs. Get the straight scoop from the source; don't get bogged down by rumors and inaccurate info.



Photo by SSgt Kristina Brown

#### Quarterly award winners

From left, TSgt. Stephen Masi, 29 IS, NCO; TSgt. Mitchell Ross, 694 IG/DO, Honor Guard; Mr. Reginald Ducane, 694 SPTS/CE, Civilian; Capt. Scott Hayford, 29 IS, CGO; and SrA Travis Lamb, 22 IS, airman (not pictured, MSgt. Curtis Zurcher, 29 IS, SNCO)



Photo by SSgt Kristina Brown



Photo by SSgt Kristina Brown

#### ▲ ALS graduation

Class 2002-A graduates with each member holding a line number for staff sergeant. Class award winners were:

##### John Levitow Award

SrA Marcelo Rivera, 22 IS

##### Distinguished Graduates

SrA Shane M. Thornley, 22IS

SrA Jeannie L. Wielputz, 29 IS

##### Leadership Award

SrA Marcelo Rivera, 22 IS

##### Academic Achievement Award

SrA Kevin M. Doherty, 29 IS

#### ◆ NCO Induction

More than 100 senior airmen are sworn in as NCOs at the 70 IW NCO Induction Ceremony Nov. 13.